

The Ben Hayden House
Hopwood Pa.

HABS No. 8-4

HABS
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26-HOP,
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA.
District No. 8

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

Historic American Buildings Survey
Charles M. Stotz, District Officer
815 Bessemer Bldg., Pittsburgh Pa.

BEN HAYDEN HOUSE
Hopwood, Fayette County
Pennsylvania

Owner: Mrs. Julia H. Martin.

Date of Erection: 1822 (see drawings); before 1826 (see card index).

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: One and a half.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

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The present owner of this property is Mrs. Julia H. Martin. The present occupant is George W. Martin, a son of Mrs. Julia H. Martin. Mrs. Martin has owned the property since 1914. George W. Martin has lived here with his family since 1922. It was occupied before this time by Mrs. Julia H. Martin, widow of Arthur Martin who died in 1902. Arthur Martin was a son of Frederick R. Martin and Mary A. Martin. Mary A. Martin was a daughter of Benjamin Hayden who died in 1877.

The closets on second floor were built about ten years ago. In 1903 Mrs. Julia H. Martin had glass panes put in the outside doors and at that time the split wood shingles were replaced by present-day wood shingles. Also, the original walnut joists under the first floor were removed and replaced, and the flooring in the main house was renewed. A carpenter by the name of Al. Crabb did this work in 1903.

This property was deeded in 1820 and in 1826 Benjamin Hayden bought the property with the main house on it. The original builder of the house is unknown. About 1850 Ben Hayden built the smoke house or present kitchen at the rear and enclosed the porch. The partition on the first floor of the main house was originally a board partition and did not run into the window as at present.

William Martin now living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and who is a brother of Arthur Martin, was told by Andrew Carnegie in his life time that John Hayden, father of Benjamin Hayden was the first man to smelt iron-ore west of the Allegheny Mountains. This fact was verified by Mrs. Humphreys of Fairchance, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Humphreys states that John Hayden was a partner of the elder Oliphant who was known as the "Prince of Iron Masters" in his time.

Lewis C. Mechling Jr., author.

Approved, Charles M. Stotz,
District Officer.

Revised 1936 by H.C.F.